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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/063,145	03/25/2002	Roderick Leon Barnes	BIF.001	2719
29767	7590	06/03/2005	EXAMINER	
ERIC W. CERNYAR, P.C. 10401 FOX HOLLOW SAN ANTONIO, TX 78217			BLACK, LINH	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2167	

DATE MAILED: 06/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/063,145

Applicant(s)

BARNES, RODERICK LEON

Examiner

LINH BLACK

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 March 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-21 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 20-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 25 March 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>6/4/02</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This communication is in response the Applicant's Response dated 3/15/05. Claims 20-27 are pending. Claims 20 and 27 are independent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 20-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tabb et al. (USP 5603025).

1. Tabb et al. anticipated the independent claim 20 by the following:

retrieve a first object that defines characteristics of the first report, the first object including a first query language instruction operable to retrieve a first data set from a database, the first query language instruction also including a linking instruction that specifies a linking relationship between at least a portion of the first data set and the second report, the first object further specifying a first report template to which the first data set is operable to be bound – figs. 3c-e; col. 1, lines 39-55; col. 5, lines 23-26; col. 6, lines 40-41; col. 17, lines 26-44; col. 18, line 66 to col. 19, line 23.

retrieve the first data set in response to the first query language instruction; bind at least a portion of the first data set to the first report template – col. 1, lines 39-55; col. 17, lines 27-58; col. 18, line 66 to col. 19, line 23.

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publish the first report – figs. 3c-e; col. 7, lines 49-65; col. 15, lines 27-65; col. 19, line 65 to col. 20, line 10.

wait for the user to select an element of the first report; if the user selects an element of the first report, map the user's selection to a corresponding portion of the first data set – col. 1, lines 21-30; col. 10, lines 54-67; col. 15, lines 27-65; col. 17, lines 27-57.

if the linking instruction specifies a linking relationship between the second report and the portion of the first data set corresponding to the user's selection, then retrieve a second object that defines characteristics of the second report – col. 14, lines 24-46; col. 18, line 66 to col. 19, line 23; fig. 7b.

the second object including a second query language instruction operable to retrieve a second data set from said database or another database, the second object further specifying a second report template to which the second data set is operable to be bound – col. 19, lines 38-65; col. 21, line 8 to col. 22, line 67.

retrieve the second data set in response to the second query language instruction; bind the second data set to the second report template; and publish the second report – col. 19, line 1 to col. 20, line 10.

2. Tabb et al. anticipated claim 21 by the following:

where the linking instruction also includes a parameter to pass to the second object and to modify the second query language instruction therein, the method further comprising

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the following action if the action of retrieving the second object is performed: translate the second query language instruction to incorporate the parameter passed by the linking instruction – col. 19, line 1 to col. 20, line 10; col. 21, line 8 to col. 22, line 67.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 22, 24, 26-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bakalash et al. (US 2002/0184187).

3. Bakalash et al. anticipated the independent claim 22 by the following:

a computer – fig. 19G (client machine); fig. 21; paragraph 0234; 0239.

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a plurality of report pattern objects residing on the computer, each object defining characteristics of a report, including a query language statement operable to retrieve a result set from the database – paragraphs 0008-0012; 0057-0058; 0116.

a data retrieving module operable to retrieve the result set specified by the query language statement – pars. 0014, 0070-0071.

a result set handling module operable to identify drill-down-report-specifying metadata in the result set – pars. 0074, 0231, 0235.

an event handling module operable to retrieve, in response to user requests, report pattern objects corresponding to drill-down reports specified in the metadata of the result set – pars. 0055-0056, 0201, 0233.

4. Bakalash et al. anticipated claim 24 by the following:

a translating module operable to incorporate parameters passed by the event handling module into the query language expressions of report pattern objects retrieved in response to user requests for drill-down reports – pars. 0055-0056; 0202; 0231.

5. Bakalash et al. anticipated claim 26 by the following:

a presentation handler operable to display reports in accordance with the report code generated by the reporting module – pars. 0029, 0037, 0055, 0120.

6. Bakalash et al. anticipated claim 27 by the following:

wherein the data retrieving module comprises at least a portion of a relational database management system – pars. 0057-0058, 0120, 0134, 0150, 0158, 0177, 0204, 0217, 0233-0234.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bakalash et al. (US 2002/0184187), and further in view of Tabb et al. (USP 5603025).

7. As per claim 23, Bakalash et al. do not explicitly teach an editing module operable to enable the editing of the report pattern objects. However, Tabb et al. teach “methods for hypertext reporting in a relational database management system” – the title. Tabb et al. teach editing of objects: forms – col. 12, line 25 to col. 13, line 7. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Tabb et al.’s with Bakalash et al.’s teaching in order to allow the editing/modification of report pattern objects.

Claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over
Bakalash et al. (US 2002/0184187)

8. As per claim 25, Bakalash et al. teach generating of reports corresponding to the result set on a user interface – paragraphs 0029, 0055-0056, 0120, 0168, 0252. However, Bakalash et al. do not explicitly teach generate report **code**. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention that report codes are inherently generated when reports are generated.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 3/15/05 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. In response to the Applicant's argument regarding "nothing in Tabb et al. suggests that underlying RTF code 700 includes a query language statement...there is no indication that had the linking instruction was part of a query language statement in an underlying data model. However, Examiner finds that Tabb et al. teach users can submit queries using query editors – col. 2, lines 48-58; col. 2, line 67 to col. 3, line 14; col. 11, line 63 to col. 12, line 10.

In regard to the argument that Tabb does not teach the linking instruction is included within a query statement or instruction block that is used to retrieve the data set from the database. Examiner finds that Tabb does teach "the system may place

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appropriate hypertext links which cross-reference information in one report to information in another, related report.” – col. 3, lines 40-45.

Tabb also teaches forms/templates and report – col. 3, lines 25-37.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LINH BLACK whose telephone number is 571-272-4106. The examiner can normally be reached on 8am - 5pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, JOHN BREENE can be reached on 571-272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



LINH BLACK
Examiner
Art Unit 2167

December 7, 2004


Primary Examiner